Indo-UK talks to Curb Terrorism and Drug Trafficking

*153. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Under Secretary of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Officer Mr. John Coles held discussions in New Delhi recently with Indian official and Prime Minister of India:

(b) if so, what are the details of the discussions and the outcome thereof indicating the progress made towards curbing terrorism in the two countries, ratification of the Extradition Treaty and Drug trafficking control etc.; and

(c) when and where the next round of talks between India and U.K. is going to take place indicating also the likely date of visit of Prime Minister of U.K. to India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Sir John Coles, Deputy Under Secretary in the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, held official level consultations in New Delhi on 4-5 November 1992. He also called on Shri R. L. Bhatia, Minister of State for External Affairs.

(b) In addition to exchanging views on a broad range of bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest the two sides reviewed on-going cooperation to curb terrorism. Both sides were of the view that the process of ratification of the Extradition Treaty and Agreement on Confiscation of property related to Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, which was already underway, should be brought to an early successful conclusion.

(c) The next round of talks between India and the UK will take place during the visit of the British Prime Minister, who has been invited to be the Chief Guest at India's Republic Day celebrations in January, 1993.

Cartel formed by major tyre producers

*154. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI SHANTI TYAGI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 4694 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th August, 1992 and state :

(a) whether BICP reports on the formation of cartel by tyre manufacturers for price control has been examined;

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard; and

(c) whether the case is proposed to be referred to M.R.T.P. Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI; KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The BICP report on Costs & Prices of Automotive Tyres is under examination in the Department of Industrial Development in consultation with the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices.

(b) and (c) Action will depend on (a) above.

Increase of hooliganism/black money in Elections

*155. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to abolish direct elections in the country to do away with the increasing menace of blackmoney and hooliganism; and

(b) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.